



NTIA Broadband Programs: Semiannual Status Report

Final Report No. OIG-26-013-I ■ March 19, 2026

This is the sixth in a series of semiannual reports providing the status of six broadband grant programs administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

This report covers progress as of October 31, 2025, except where otherwise noted. It includes information on the following broadband grant programs: Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD), the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP), Digital Equity Act (DEA), Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant (MMG), Connecting Minority Communities Pilot (CMC), and the Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP).

Why This Matters

Efforts to increase broadband internet access in America support economic growth, job creation, improved education, healthcare, and public safety. As of October 31, 2025, over \$46.2 billion in grants has been awarded to support expanding broadband infrastructure. This is an increase of \$2.4 million (0.01 percent) since our last status report.¹ The six broadband grant programs have received a total of nearly \$50 billion in appropriations since December 2020.

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¹ Commerce OIG. September 24, 2025. *NTIA Broadband Programs: Semiannual Status Report*. [OIG-25-031-I](#).

About the Programs' Funding

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2021 was signed into law on December 27, 2020.² CAA, 2021 provided nearly \$1.6 billion in funding to NTIA to implement three new grant programs: CMC, BIP, and TBCP. This investment laid critical groundwork for widespread access to and affordability of broadband, to include supporting broadband infrastructure deployment to areas lacking broadband, especially rural areas, and expanding broadband adoption and deployment on tribal lands.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed into law on November 15, 2021.³ According to NTIA, a key purpose of IIJA is to invest in broadband infrastructure that will connect millions of unserved and underserved Americans and overcome barriers that have kept millions more from adopting broadband even where it is available. IIJA provided a \$65 billion broadband investment, of which \$48.2 billion will be administered by NTIA. This funding established BEAD, DEA, and MMG and added funding to TBCP.

About These Status Reports

In accordance with CAA, 2021 and IIJA, the Department's Office of Inspector General is charged with the oversight of these broadband programs. CAA, 2021 specifically directs us to produce a report that reviews the grants awarded under CAA, 2021 twice a year until grant funds are expended. We meet this requirement by issuing these status reports, conducting audits and evaluations of the programs, and developing a proactive antifraud strategy that complements our audits and evaluations.

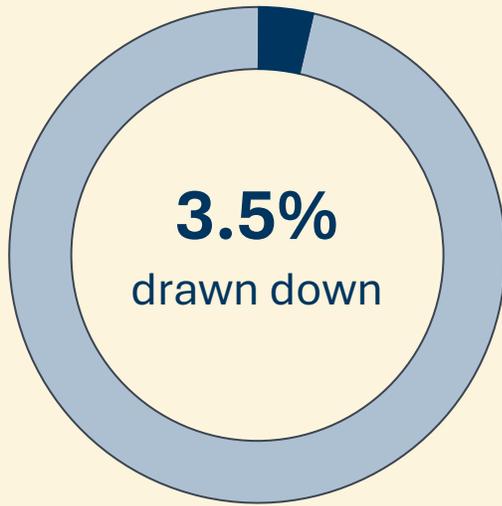
These status reports provide information on each of the six broadband programs, including funding status, number of grant recipients, and updates on current and future activities. They also provide insight into each of the programs' planning, implementation, technical assistance, and NTIA oversight for compliance with the requirements of their respective notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs) and applicable federal policies and procedures.

These status reports are written in accordance with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*. NTIA provided the program information in this report; we did not audit or substantiate the information.

² Pub. L. No. 116-260, §905(f)(2).

³ Pub. L. No. 117-58.

Program Funding Summary



591
Total Grants Awarded

\$46,239,177,886
Total Amount Awarded

\$1,616,331,271
Total Drawn Down

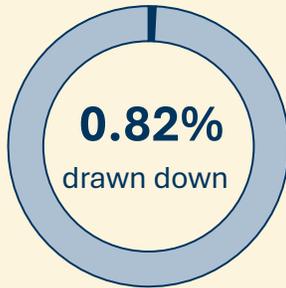
Program	Grants Awarded	Amount Awarded	Drawdown Amounts
BEAD	56	\$41,601,000,000	\$340,625,513
TBCP			
<i>Funding Round 1</i>	227	\$1,878,912,416	\$598,388,229
<i>Funding Round 2</i>	49	\$360,723,050	\$22,789,356
DEA Programs			
<i>Planning</i>	56	\$53,702,029	\$46,569,954
<i>Capacity</i>	55	\$761,404,850	\$3,733,870
<i>Competitive</i>	3	\$44,935,160	\$218,046
<i>Native Entity (NE)*</i>	1	\$7,946,564	\$13,776
MMG	37	\$979,998,025	\$198,184,169
CMC	93	\$262,852,127	\$203,001,180
BIP	14	\$287,703,665	\$202,807,178
Total	591	\$46,239,177,886	\$1,616,331,271

* DEA grants were canceled in May 2025 except for funds that had been set aside for native entities to implement eligible activities from the Digital Equity Act. For more information, see pp. 9–10.

Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program

Purpose: To support government projects for broadband deployment, mapping, and adoption.

Where's the money?



56 Grants Awarded

\$41,601,000,000 Amount Awarded

\$340,625,513 Drawn Down

What's the status?

- NTIA received and approved the 5-year action plans, initial proposals, challenge process results, and initial proposal corrections from all recipients
- Eligible states and territories had 90 days from the issuance of the June 2025 restructuring policy notice to submit a final proposal reflecting the outcomes of the new “Benefit of the Bargain”⁴ selection round; as of October 31, 2025, 53 out of 56 states and territories had submitted their final proposals
- NTIA is reviewing final proposals submitted after the September 2025 deadline on a rolling basis

What's next?

- NTIA plans to approve all final proposals by May 2026
- NTIA will continue to support recipients post-award, including permitting support and monitoring

⁴ The “Benefit of the Bargain” round must permit all applicants, regardless of the technology they use or their prior participation in the program, to compete without the non-statutory regulatory burdens that were eliminated.

More about BEAD



Total appropriation and funding authority:

\$42.45 billion under IIJA

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

Approximately **\$811 million** (1.9%)⁵

Eligibility:

All 50 U.S. states

Washington, DC

5 U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

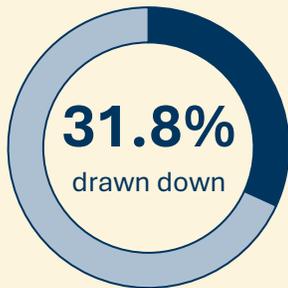
⁵ NTIA transferred administrative funds from BEAD to the administrative funds for MMG, CMC, and BIP, stating that it did so under the transfer authority of CAA, 2024. The amounts in this report reflect the administrative expenses allocated for each program after the transfers, as of the date of this report.

Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

Purpose: To support broadband infrastructure deployment, telehealth, distance learning, broadband affordability, and digital inclusion on tribal lands. TBCP is awarding grants under two NOFOs. Below we summarize the status and activities of each funding round.

Where's the money?

Funding Round 1

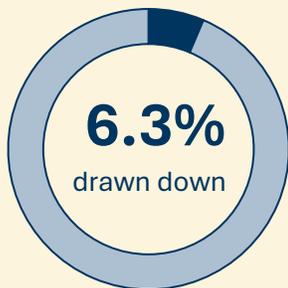


227 Grants Awarded

\$1,878,912,416 Amount Awarded

\$598,388,229 Drawn Down

Funding Round 2



49 Grants Awarded

\$360,723,050 Amount Awarded

\$22,789,356 Drawn Down

What's the status?

Funding Round 1

- Project end dates were reached for 35 awards
- TBCP had connected 5,817 homes as of April 30, 2025
- NTIA hosts monthly Tribal Broadband Leaders Network meetings
- NTIA conducted 27 desk reviews and site visits

Funding Round 2

- Application intake, initial eligibility review, administrative review, and merit review processes are complete, and programmatic reviews are in progress
- As of October 31, 2025, 34 of the 49 recipients had submitted baseline reports;⁶ NTIA has approved 32 of these reports and is reviewing the rest

What's next?

Funding Round 1

- As part of the award closeout process, recipients with completed projects must submit final financial and programmatic reports within 120 days after the end of the project period
- NTIA will continue to provide oversight, technical assistance, and monitoring of obligated awards and to support the closeout of awards
- Approximately 160,000 homes representing approximately 400 tribes will be connected when the projects are completed

Funding Round 2

- NTIA will continue to review applications eligible for equitable distribution and announce awards on a rolling basis
- NTIA announced that it is working to streamline TBCP through a new NOFO to support tribal broadband access aiming to reduce administrative burdens, prevent duplication, and ensure consistency across NTIA's broadband initiatives
- In spring 2026, NTIA plans to launch the new NOFO that is intended to streamline the program
- NTIA plans to announce a formal consultation to allow tribal governments to provide input on the next funding round

⁶ A baseline report provides projected goals and planned activities from award start date to closeout.

More about TBCP



Total appropriation and funding authority:

\$1 billion under CAA, 2021 and **\$2 billion** under IJA

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

Approximately **\$157 million** (5.2%)⁷

Eligibility:

Tribal governments, organizations, and colleges or universities

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian community, including Native Hawaiian education programs

Alaska Native corporations

⁷ CAA, 2024 made additional IJA funds available for administrative costs. NTIA allocated \$97.8 million of the additional IJA funds for TBCP administrative expenses, for a total of approximately \$157 million.

Digital Equity Act Programs

DE Planning program status: As of August 2025, all 56 Planning program grants are closed. Of the \$53,702,029 awarded, grant recipients de-obligated \$7,132,075.

56 Grants Awarded

\$53,702,029 Amount Awarded

\$46,569,954 Drawn Down

DE Capacity and Competitive program status: On May 9, 2025, at the direction of the President, the Secretary of Commerce directed NTIA to cancel all grants made under the DE Capacity and Competitive programs, except for statutory set-asides for native entities (NEs).

NTIA executed the closeout process, including receiving and reviewing final reports for all 58 terminated Capacity and Competitive program awards. NTIA transmitted those closeout packages to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) grants office, which administers the DEA program grants on NTIA’s behalf, to complete the processing. As of October 29, 2025, NIST had completed closeout processing for seven grants and de-obligated \$130,563,790. Our future reports will include the funding status for the Capacity and Competitive Programs through the final closeout of the awards.

DE Capacity	DE Competitive
55 Grants Terminated	3 Grants Terminated
\$761,404,850 Awarded	\$44,935,160 Awarded
\$3,733,870 Drawn Down	\$218,046 Drawn Down

NTIA reserved \$45.3 million of the DE Capacity funding and \$50 million of the DE Competitive funding, for a total of \$95.3 million, for the NE set-aside. This funding will provide grants to tribal entities to support digital equity efforts in their communities. We summarize the status of the NE program on the next page.

Digital Equity Act Programs – Native Entities

Purpose: To promote digital inclusion and broadband adoption efforts for native communities.

Where's the money?



1 Grant Awarded

\$7,946,564 Amount Awarded

\$13,776 Drawn Down

What's the status?

- NTIA leadership decided they will not move forward with the NE applications that were still under review; NTIA is notifying the applicants that their applications will be rejected
- One DE Competitive award, which had been made to an NE, was not terminated, and NTIA is continuing to provide oversight of that award

What's next?

- A new NOFO for the NE Grant Program is expected to be released in spring 2026

More about the NE Grant Program



Total appropriation and funding authority:

At least \$95.3 million will be made available under IJA

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

To be determined

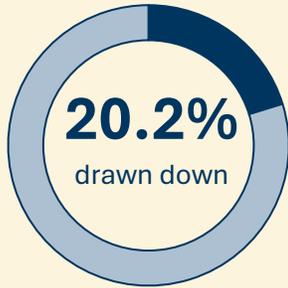
Eligibility:

Indian tribes, Alaska Native entities, and Native Hawaiian organizations

Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program

Purpose: To fund the expansion and extension of middle mile infrastructure across U.S. states and territories.

Where's the money?



37 Grants Awarded

\$979,998,025 Amount Awarded

\$794,447,997 in Additional Investments by Recipients⁸

\$198,184,169 Drawn Down

What's the status?

- All grant funding has been awarded; no additional awards will be announced
- NTIA publishes the data from required recipients' progress and milestone reports, allowing the public to monitor awards and internet service providers to educate themselves on award status
- Recipients reported 6,077 miles of fiber deployed, 13 towers constructed, 609 points of interconnection, and 1,950 anchor institutions⁹ passed within 1,000 feet of middle mile networks
- Recipients have signed 21 agreements with broadband wholesalers and last mile providers to provide broadband service in proposed areas
- As of October 15, 2025, NTIA had processed seven no-cost extensions for recipients' periods of performance and had conducted closeout activities for 2 of the 37 awards
- Two recipients requested to terminate their awards for convenience
- Five awards reached the end of their performance period
- As of October 10, 2025, the Assistant Secretary had approved the eight MMG grantees with 5-year award periods to modify the buildout benchmarks as described in the NOFO

⁸ An MMG award cannot exceed 70 percent of the total project cost. Matching funds can be in cash or in-kind contributions consistent with the guidance in 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

⁹ An anchor institution is a school, library, medical or healthcare provider, community college or other institution of higher education, or other community support organization or entity.

What's next?

- NTIA will continue post-award monitoring activities, including quarterly conference calls, desk reviews, and site visits
- NTIA expects to process additional no-cost period-of-performance extensions and closeouts for awards through May 30, 2026
- NTIA is working to implement recommendations from a U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, which found that the MMG program lacked performance goals and metrics¹⁰

More about MMG



Total appropriation and funding authority:

\$1 billion under IIJA

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

Approximately **\$57 million** (5.7%)¹¹

Eligibility:

Governments (states, political subdivisions of states, and tribal governments)

Industry (technology companies, electric companies, utility cooperatives, public utility districts, telecommunications companies, and telecommunications cooperatives)

Nonprofits and other associations (nonprofit foundations, corporations, institutions, or associations; regional planning councils; Native entities; and economic development authorities)

Any partnership of two or more of the above that provide technical capability of expanding or extending middle mile infrastructure

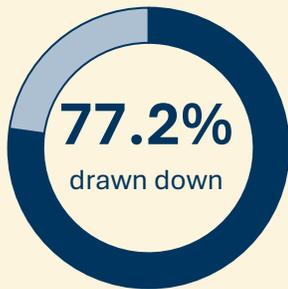
¹⁰ GAO. October 19, 2023. *Broadband Infrastructure: Middle-Mile Grant Program Lacked Timely Performance Goals and Targeted Measures*, GAO-24-106131.

¹¹ NTIA reallocated \$14.6 million of the MMG program funds for administrative expenses, for a total of \$57.4 million.

Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program

Purpose: To help colleges and institutions serving minority and tribal communities purchase broadband equipment and hire technology personnel.

Where's the money?



93 Grants Awarded

\$262,852,127 Amount Awarded

\$203,001,180 Drawn Down

What's the status?

- All grant funding has been awarded
- Recipients have upgraded 268 broadband networks, provided over 40,000 subscriptions, trained over 50,000 community members, and distributed more than 21,000 devices to students at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and members of their surrounding communities
- 33 awards reached the end of their performance periods or were ended by other measures¹² (such as award termination or loss of accreditation)
- All recipients' FY 2025 annual reports were submitted as required
- Semiannual reports were due on October 30, 2025; 38 were submitted on time

What's next?

- The 60 remaining awards were expected to reach their end-of-performance dates by February 28, 2026
- NTIA will conduct monitoring activities such as quarterly calls and facilitate closeout meetings with recipients
- NTIA plans to complete the statutorily required program closeout report for Congress by fall 2026

¹² NTIA terminated one award on June 11, 2024, due to the recipient's material noncompliance with award terms and conditions.

More about CMC



Total appropriation and funding authority:

\$285 million under CAA, 2021

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

Approximately **\$23 million** (8.1%)

Eligibility:

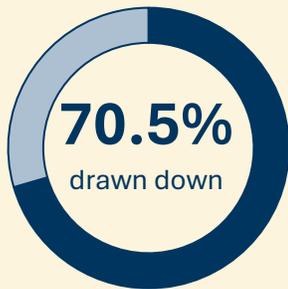
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges or Universities (TCUs), and MSIs, including Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)

Consortiums led by an HBCU, TCU, or MSI (including HSIs) that also include either a minority business enterprise or an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from tax under section 501(a) of the code

Broadband Infrastructure Program

Purpose: For states and broadband providers to support broadband infrastructure projects in areas lacking broadband access.

Where's the money?



14 Grants Awarded

\$287,703,665 Amount Awarded

\$202,807,178 Drawn Down

What's the status?

- All grant funding has been awarded
- 66,603 households have been connected, 4,500 miles of fiber-optic network have been deployed, and 2,200 miles of fiber-optic network have been upgraded
- NTIA completed one closeout and an additional four are in process
- NTIA received all of the grantees' semiannual reports that were due October 31, 2025
- NTIA completed eight site visits and seven desk reviews
- NTIA received and approved all FY 2024 annual reports

What's next?

- Four recipients were expected to complete their projects in 2025, seven are expected in 2026, and two in 2027
- In February 2026, recipients had to submit their FY 2025 annual reports describing how grant funds were expended, certifying that the funds were spent in compliance with program requirements, and identifying all subgrantees
- Recipients with completed projects must submit final financial and programmatic reports within 120 days of the end of the project period
- NTIA will continue monitoring activities, with 24 planned quarterly conference calls (one per quarter for each grantee until they submit their initial closeout package)
- One site visit is planned for the third quarter of FY 2026

More about BIP



Total appropriation and funding authority:

\$300 million under CAA, 2021

Total allocated for administrative expenses:

Approximately **\$14 million** (4.7%)

Eligibility:

“Covered partnerships,” defined by the BIP NOFO as partnerships between a state (or one or more political subdivisions of a state) and a provider of fixed broadband service. A partnership may include more than one service provider as part of its application. If awarded funds, the governmental partner (that is, the state or its political subdivision or subdivisions) must serve as the lead applicant, assuming primary operational and financial responsibility for completing the project.

OIG Broadband Oversight

IJA awarded funding for us to provide oversight of NTIA's administration of broadband grant programs. This oversight enables us to anticipate and identify potential risks and fraud NTIA may face when administering the broadband grant programs. For publicly available information related to our oversight, see [our website](#).

Office of Audit and Evaluation

In addition to these semiannual status reports, our Office of Audit and Evaluation (OAE) is currently conducting the following audits:

- Audit of IJA Administrative Funds Review. The objective is to assess NTIA's spending of grant program administration funds authorized by IJA.
- Audit of NTIA's Allocation of BEAD Funds. The objective is to determine whether NTIA properly allocated federal funds provided for the BEAD program.
- Audit of NTIA's BEAD Program Review Process. The objective is to determine whether NTIA has an adequate review process to ensure that states' and territories' plans meet the BEAD program's planning phase requirements.
- Audit of Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program Funds Awarded by NTIA. The objective is to determine whether federal funds provided for the Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program were used for their intended purposes.
- Audit of the NTIA's Oversight of Digital Equity Program Expenditures. The objective is to determine whether federal funds provided for the NTIA's Digital Equity Planning Grant Program were used for their intended purposes.
- Audit of NTIA Grants Awarded to Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program Recipients. The objective is to determine whether NTIA properly disbursed federal funds provided for the CMC program and whether recipients used those funds for their intended purposes.

Since 2023, OAE has issued the following reports that included recommendations to address any waste, fraud, and abuse in NTIA's broadband grant programs:¹³

- Evaluation: *NTIA Took the Necessary Steps to Implement the Requirements for Awarding Funds Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021*, Report No. OIG-23-018-I, issued April 24, 2023
- Management Alert: *NTIA's Reliance on Self-Certifications Increased Fraud Risk for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program*, Memo No. OIG-23-022-M, issued July 10, 2023
- Management Alert: *Challenges Industry Stakeholders Face with Broadband Deployment*, Memo No. OIG-24-015-M, issued February 29, 2024

¹³ The OAE reports listed do not include these semiannual status reports.

- Audit: *NTIA’s Award Processes Leave Tribal Broadband Grants Vulnerable to Fraud and Duplication*, Report No. OIG-24-019-A, issued April 8, 2024
- Evaluation: *Broadband Stakeholders Identified Various Challenges Affecting Broadband Deployment*, Report No. OIG-25-014-I, issued March 20, 2025

Office of Investigations

Our Office of Investigations (OI) created and implemented a proactive antifraud strategy that complements OAE’s audits and evaluations. The goal of the strategy is to help the Department and NTIA detect and deter fraud through internal and external awareness, proactive data analysis, and quality investigative products.

The first phase of the strategy, which occurred before the award of IJA funding, focused on coordinating with NTIA and other government agencies to identify entities with a stake in broadband funding and establish relationships to increase fraud awareness and support investigative efforts. The second phase, which centers on targeted outreach to those specifically involved in the broadband programs, began after funding was awarded and is being implemented as new awards are announced and recipients utilize funding.

OI has proactively partnered with NTIA to build an extensive outreach and liaison campaign to educate NTIA personnel, broadband funding applicants, and recipients. Through this educational partnership, OI has:

- Briefed stakeholders on fraud awareness, addressing in greater detail the issues noted in our report, *Top Management and Performance Challenges Facing the Department of Commerce in FY 2025* (for example, OI provided antifraud briefings to BEAD grant applicants and recipients from nearly all U.S. states and territories, worked with NTIA on post-award antifraud briefings to BIP, CMC, MMG, and TBCP recipients, and participated in virtual and in-person informational sessions with recipients)
- Regularly participated in and contributed to NTIA’s meetings and conferences with BEAD, MMG, and TBCP recipients to address antifraud best practices
- Continued to provide fraud awareness training to NTIA personnel, recipients, subrecipients, state-level oversight entities, and other stakeholders involved in broadband funding programs to enhance fraud deterrence and detection efforts
- Partnered with state attorneys general and NTIA to regularly discuss compliance, oversight, and fraud awareness related to the BEAD program

In addition, OI has coordinated with NTIA to improve certifications of information that applicants, recipients, and subrecipients provide throughout the grant award lifecycle. Such certifications are effective accountability mechanisms—without them, it can be difficult to pursue remedies and hold recipients and subrecipients accountable. Requiring certifications, specifying that they relate to material requirements or information, and ensuring that they are strong and carefully crafted are critical measures for preventing fraud and abuse. OI made suggestions to NTIA on draft BEAD and

TBCP NOFOs that incorporated best practices for certifications, and offered other fraud prevention, detection, and resolution measures aimed at addressing the challenges accompanying this historic investment in broadband infrastructure deployment.

OI has coordinated outreach and investigative efforts with the U.S. Department of Justice and the OIGs from other agencies that oversee IJA-funded programs. OI also collaborates with OIGs that have oversight of broadband funding programs with the intention of identifying opportunities for joint investigations and preventing duplicative funding.

As public awareness of the six broadband grant programs increases and the projects supported by these grants progress, OI has received more fraud-related complaints involving the misuse of these funds. OI tracks all complaints to identify trends that could aid in antifraud efforts and pursues criminal, civil, and administrative investigations of complaints when possible. OI's goal is to hold recipients and subrecipients accountable, helping to ensure that funds reach the intended recipients and achieve the intended results.

For example, OI found that a senior manager at NTIA twice misused their position: once in August 2023, when they sought employment with an entity that was seeking BEAD funding from NTIA, and again in April and May 2024, when they helped their child receive an NTIA internship that had not been made publicly available.¹⁴ OI reported these findings to NTIA, and in response, NTIA removed the senior manager from federal service in December 2025.

Additionally, as previously reported, OI participated in an investigation that resulted in the conviction of a subject who committed fraud involving an NTIA broadband grant.¹⁵ The investigation revealed that the subject created fraudulent invoices and expense reports to misappropriate more than \$800,000. In April 2025, the subject was sentenced to 28 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release and was ordered to pay \$828,151.99 in restitution.¹⁶ OI also referred the subject to the Department's Suspending and Debarring Official for action.

OI will provide the results of other investigations related to the misuse of broadband grant funds in future reports, where possible. OI will also continue to collaborate with NTIA to help mitigate potential fraud.

¹⁴ Commerce OIG. July 3, 2025. *Investigation Into Allegations of Misuse of Position by an NTIA Official* (summary). [24-0887](#).

¹⁵ Plea Agreement, *U.S. v. Larry Todd Morgan*, No. 1:24-cr-247 (E.D. Va. Filed Feb. 4, 2025).

¹⁶ Judgment, *U.S. v. Larry Todd Morgan*, No. 1:24-cr-247 (E.D. Va. Filed Apr. 22, 2025).